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PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 4th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York
on Tuesday, 16 February 1993, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. HUSLID (Norway)
(Vice-President)

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Elections and appointments to subsidiary bodies of the Council and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions (continued)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.55 a.m.

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS TO SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COUNCIL AND CONFIRMATION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS (continued)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to resume consideration of agenda item 6, and recalled that it was customary practice for the terms of office of newly elected members to be staggered for the initial period in order to avoid the entire membership of a body retiring at the same time. It would therefore be necessary to draw lots for the initial term of membership for elected members once all vacancies had been filled. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the members of the Council agreed to that procedure.

It was so decided.

Commission on Sustainable Development (E/1993/L.19)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect the 53 members of its new functional commission, the Commission on Sustainable Development, which it had decided to establish by its decision 1993/207. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/191, the term of office of the newly elected members would begin on the date of election. Information regarding the election, including the distribution of seats, was contained in document E/1993/L.19.

Eastern European States

The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates for the Group of Eastern European States was equal to the number of vacancies for that Group, he would take it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Belarus, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Russian Federation were elected members of the Commission on Sustainable Development by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said that, since there were more candidates from the other groups than there were vacancies for those groups, members from each regional group would be elected by separate secret ballots.

African States

The PRESIDENT said that, since the Secretariat had not received the list of candidates for the Group of African States, he invited the representative of the Niger, in her capacity as Chairman of the Group of African States, to read out the names of the candidates for the 13 vacancies for that group.

Mrs. MAIKARFI (Niger), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, said that consultations on elections to the Commission on Sustainable Development had been held since the Rio Summit, which demonstrated the importance the Group attached to the Commission. There were 33 candidates: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Moreover, the States of the southern African subregion had nominated two countries - Malawi and Namibia - and the other countries of the subregion - Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe - had withdrawn their candidatures. That left 11 seats to be filled by the Group of African States.

Mr. LOPES da ROSA (Guinea-Bissau) said that, in a spirit of solidarity and to promote unity, his delegation would withdraw its candidature.

Mr. LUKABU KHABOUJI N'ZAJI (Zaire) commended the representative of Guinea-Bissau for his spirit of solidarity and said that, like the States of the southern African subregion, the Group of African States as a whole supported the nomination of Malawi and Namibia. Those countries should therefore be considered elected by acclamation, and the Council would have to elect 11 members by secret ballot to fill the remaining vacancies.

The PRESIDENT said that four countries had withdrawn their candidatures, and that the Group of African States supported the nomination of Malawi and Namibia. Although such a procedure was not customary practice, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Malawi and Namibia by acclamation, and to elect 11 members by secret ballot to fill the remaining vacancies.

Malawi and Namibia were elected members of the Commission on Sustainable Development by acclamation.

Mr. SEBURYAMO (Burundi) wished to clarify one point: while the Group of African States had supported the nomination of two States from southern Africa, the remaining 11 vacancies for the Group of African States should be distributed equally among the four other subregions.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Grabowski (Poland) and Mr. Akay (Turkey) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 53

Number of invalid ballots: 0

Number of valid ballots: 53

Abstentions: 0

Number of members voting: 53

Required majority: 27

Number of votes obtained:

Morocco	46
Tunisia	45
Benin	43
Nigeria	43
Egypt	39
Gabon	38
Burkina Faso	36
Madagascar	33
Algeria	30
Guinea	29
Angola	21
Ghana	21
Mauritania	18
Zaire	18
United Republic of Tanzania	17
Kenya	17
Uganda	16
Côte d'Ivoire	12

Burundi 10
Senegal 8
Seychelles 8
Sierra Leone 8
Cameroon 6
Djibouti 6
Mali 4
Congo 3
Niger 1

Having obtained the required majority, Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Madagascar, Morocco, Nigeria and Tunisia were elected members of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Mrs. MAIKARFI (Niger) said that, although her delegation had not been a candidate, she wished to thank the delegation that had voted for it.

The PRESIDENT said that, since Angola and Ghana had not obtained the required majority, it would be necessary to hold a second secret ballot to fill the last vacancy. That vote would be held at the next meeting.

Western European and other States

The PRESIDENT said that there were 13 vacancies to fill for the Group of Western European and other States and there were 14 candidates: Australia, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Seth (India) and Mr. Shaukat (Pakistan) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 53
Number of invalid ballots: 0
Number of valid ballots: 53
Abstentions: 0
Number of members voting: 53
Required majority: 27

Number of votes obtained:

France	53
Norway	53
Austria	52
Germany	52
Canada	51
Australia	49
Belgium	49
Italy	47
Iceland	46
United Kingdom	45
United States of America	45
Netherlands	43
Turkey	41
Portugal	34
Malta	2
Spain	2
Switzerland	2

Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom and the United States of America were elected members of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Asian States

The PRESIDENT said that there were 11 vacancies for the Group of Asian States and there were 14 candidates: China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vanuatu.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Tellier (Canada) and Mr. Brun (Denmark) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The PRESIDENT said that the results of the vote would be announced at the next meeting.

Latin American and Caribbean States

The PRESIDENT said that there were 10 vacancies for the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and there were 14 candidates: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Guyana, Mexico, Nicaragua, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Mr. MELENDEZ-BARAHONA (El Salvador) withdrew his country's candidature.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Wrba (Austria) and Mr. Ndiaye (Gabon) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The PRESIDENT said that the results of the vote would be announced at the next meeting.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.